

THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE DELEGATES.

Roosevelt Contests At Chicago Were Instituted to Deceive the Public—All But 74 Were Finally Abandoned by Leaders

CONTESTED DISTRICT DELEGATES.

ALABAMA.

Ninth District.
The Ninth Alabama contest turned on the question whether the chairman of a district committee had power to fill vacancies, whether a committee-man who had sent his resignation to take effect only in case he was not present, being present, should be prevented from acting as committee-man, and, third, on the identity of another committee-man. The written resolution under which the right of the chairman to appoint to vacancies was claimed showed on its face that the specific authority was written in it in different writing and different colored pencil between the lines. A number of affidavits were filed by committee-men who were present when the resolution was passed to show that the resolution contained no such authority. This gave rise to a question of fact upon which a very large majority of both the national committee and the committee on credentials held that the lead pencil insertion was a forgery, that the chairman did not have the authority therefore to appoint to the vacancies, and therefore the action of his committee was not valid. This made it necessary to reject the contestants. The committee decided the two other issues of fact before them in favor of the Taft delegates, although the first decision was conclusive.

ARKANSAS.

Fifth District.
In the Fifth Arkansas the question was one of the identity of one faction or the other as the Republican party. This convention followed the example of the convention of 1908 in holding that what was known as the Redding faction was not the Republican party, that it was a defunct organization and had only acquired life at the end of each four years for the purpose of using it in the national convention. The contestants were therefore rejected. It was shown that the other or Taft had been in active existence as the Republican party, had nominated a local ticket and had run a congressional.

CALIFORNIA.

Fourth District.
The Fourth California presented this question: Under the state law the delegation, two from each district, was elected on a general ticket, in a group of twenty-six. Each delegate might either express his presidential preference or agree to vote for the presidential candidate receiving the highest number in the state. In the Fourth district the two candidates from that district on the Taft ticket expressed a preference for Taft, but did not agree to vote for the candidates having the highest state vote. These Taft delegates in the Fourth district received a majority of 200 more than the Roosevelt delegates in that district. The national call forbade any law or the acceptance of any law which prevented the election of delegates by districts. In other words, the call of the national convention was at variance with the state law. The state law sought to enforce the state unit rule and required the whole twenty-six delegates to be voted for all over the state, assigning two to each district on the ticket to abide the state wide election, while the Republican national convention has insisted upon the unit of the district since 1880. That has been the party law. This convention recognized the party law and held it to be more binding than that of the state law and allowed the two delegates who had received in the Fourth district a vote larger than their two opponents assigned to that district, to become delegates in the convention. This was clearly lawful, for a state has no power to limit or control the basis of representation of a voluntary national party in a national convention. The fact that President Taft by telegram approved all the twenty-six delegates as representing him is said to be an estoppel against his claiming the election of two of those delegates in their Fourth district. What is there inconsistent in his approving the candidacy of all his delegates and the election of two of them? Why should he be thus estopped to claim that part of the law was inoperative because in conflict with the call of the convention?

INDIANA.

Thirteenth District.
In the Thirteenth Indiana there was no question about the victory of the Taft men, because the temporary chairman, representing the Taft side was conceded to have been elected by one-half a vote more than the Roosevelt candidate. This one-half vote extended through the riotous proceedings, and although it was not as wide as a barn door it was enough. The chairman put the question as to electing the Taft delegates, and after continuous objection lasting three hours declared the vote carried. The Roosevelt men thus prevented a roll call and then bolted.

KENTUCKY.

Seventh District.
In the Seventh Kentucky district the total vote of the convention was 145. There were contests from four counties, involving ninety-five votes. According to the rules of the party in Kentucky, where two seats of credentials are presented those delegates whose credentials are approved by the county chairman are entitled to participate in the temporary organization. On the temporary roll the Taft chairman was elected by ninety-eight votes and forty-seven votes were cast for the

Roosevelt candidate. The committee on credentials was then appointed, consisting of one member named by each county delegation. The majority report of the committee was adopted unanimously by the convention, no delegation whose seats were contested being permitted to vote on its own case. As soon as the majority report of the credentials committee had been adopted, the Roosevelt adherents bolted. There was not the slightest reason for sustaining the contest for Roosevelt delegates.

Eighth District.
The Eighth Kentucky district was composed of ten counties having 103 votes, of which eighty-two were necessary to a choice. There was no contest in five of the counties, and although the Roosevelt men claimed that there was one in Spencer county no contest was presented against the seating of the regularly elected Taft delegates from that county. This gave the Taft delegates eighty-four votes, or two more than were necessary for a choice. In other words, assuming that the Roosevelt men were entitled to all the delegates from the counties in which they filed contests in the district convention there remained a clear majority of uncontested delegates who voted for the Taft delegates to Chicago.

OKLAHOMA.

Third District.
In the Third Oklahoma district the question of the validity of the seats of the delegates turned on the constitution of the congressional committee, which was made up of twelve Taft men and seven Roosevelt men. The chairman, Cochran, was a Roosevelt man and attempted to prevent the majority of the committee from taking action. The chairman was removed and another substituted, and thereupon the convention was duly called to order on the temporary roll prepared by the congressional committee, which was made the permanent roll, and the two Taft delegates to Chicago were duly selected. Every county in the district had its representation and vote in the regular convention, and no person properly accredited as a delegate was excluded or debarred from participating in its proceedings. Cochran and his followers bolted after his deposition. Assuming that all the committee who went out with him had the right to act on the committee, it left the committee standing twelve for Taft and seven for Roosevelt, so it was simply a question whether a majority of the committee had the right to control its action or a minority. The bolting convention which Cochran held was not attended by a majority of the duly elected delegates to the convention. It did not have the credentials from the various counties, and its membership was largely made up of bystanders who had not been duly accredited by any county in the district. Its action was entirely without authority.

TENNESSEE.

Second District.
In the Second Tennessee district there were fifty-nine delegates uncontested out of a possible total of 108 in the convention. The Roosevelt contestants in the forty-nine refused to abide the decision of the committee on credentials and withdrew, leaving fifty-nine uncontested delegates. These fifty-nine delegates, part of whom were Roosevelt men, remained in the convention, appointed the proper committees, settled contests and proceeded to select Taft delegates. There can be no question about the validity therefore of their title.

TEXAS.

The only remaining districts were the nine in Texas. In this state in many counties there is no regular republican organization, as understood generally, and what few republicans there are in some of the counties are, unfortunately, divided into factions each claiming to predominate. In the contests from Texas, therefore, the National Convention decided them on the basis of the precedents of the party conventions in the past, which is of course, the only fair and equitable manner of reaching a settlement of the vexed question.

The above is in conclusion of the summary, part of which we published last week, to give in a clear and unbiased manner the facts concerning the contested delegates at the recent Chicago convention. It furnishes a convincing answer to Mr. Roosevelt's charge that he was deprived of the republican nomination by theft. The facts are against him, and he is not making his campaign on facts. Of the 238 Roosevelt contestants, 164 were frivolous or fraudulent, and were withdrawn or abandoned. Only 74 remained. The evidence in these cases and in some of the others was heard at great length by the republican National Committee and again by the credentials committee, and rejected by both. Some of the contests were rejected by a unanimous vote—even Mr. Roosevelt's supporters could not bring themselves to support such frivolous contests.

Mr. Roosevelt never had a majority of the rightfully elected delegates. His pretensions to such a majority are but fraudulent. By different generalship he might have secured the nomination of a progressive republican. It was evident at the time that neither Mr. Roosevelt or Mr. Taft had control of the convention. Had Roosevelt but given his consent and been willing to sacrifice his own personal ambitions for the good of the party, a progressive republican might have been named. The progressive republican cause at Chicago was utilized by Mr. Roosevelt for the single purpose of promoting his own nomination for a third term, just as the third party movement is being engineered by him today. No other

candidate, either republican or bull moose, would ever be tolerated by him.

How, then, about his friends and supporters. They are men of good minds and morals. They are men who would not knowingly lend their support to a dishonest cause. What will they do about the above review of the evidence? It is a convincing statement, and carries with it the conviction that Mr. Taft's nomination was given him by the deliberate judgment of the lawfully elected delegates.

It fully demonstrates that Mr. Roosevelt's cry of theft is a false and fraudulent pretense. Even if the seventy-four contests had been decided in his favor, he would not have had a majority of the convention. How can he have the audacity, therefore, to insist that the nomination was stolen from him? He went into the convention with too few delegates, and failing to bulldoze or browbeat enough to nominate himself, he was defeated.

In connection with this we will say, it has been charged that the Roosevelt supporters were denied expression at the Virginia state convention. This is a misleading statement. No freer or fairer convention was ever held than the republican convention at Roanoke.

It is also charged that it (the Roanoke convention) was an office-holders' convention. The writer cannot say as to all the districts, but so far as the Ninth district delegation is concerned it is safe to say, that a majority of the federal office-holders in attendance were in favor of and worked for the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt.

General Ayers Meets Committee

The democratic district committee for the Ninth district of Virginia, met in Bristol on last Thursday for organization and consultation with the democratic nominee, Gen. Rufus A. Ayers, of Big Stone Gap. The members of the committee are B. T. Wilson, of Russell; C. W. Boundurant, of Lee; J. B. Boyer, of Tazewell; John H. Gose, of Bristol; Dr. J. D. Buchanan, of Smyth; and J. F. Wyser, of Pulaski, secretary.

General Ayers, all of the members of the committee and a number of prominent democrats from different parts of the district were present. Dr. J. D. Buchanan, of Marion, was elected chairman of the committee, Mr. Wyser having already been elected secretary, at the state convention. The following advisory campaign committee was chosen: R. T. Irvine, of Big Stone Gap; J. Norment Powell, of Wythe; H. C. Stuart, of Russell; A. S. Higginbotham, of Tazewell, and H. O. Peters, of Bristol. The day was occupied with the discussion of plans and the organization of the campaign committee was deferred until some day this week when it will, upon call of General Ayers, meet at Bristol and select a chairman and a secretary.

The meeting developed much of interest. Reports from several of the counties indicated excellent democratic prospects, and those attending the meeting were hopeful of party success, owing to disaffection in the republican ranks brought about through the bull moose movement.

Bolivar News June 7th, 1912.

The entertainment given by the Alabama Minstrels under their canvas theater on the Hammond lot last Wednesday night was one of the best and most enjoyable of any that has been in Bolivar for many a day. It was full of laughter from start to finish and the performers were greeted by a very large crowd. The manager, Mr. Porter, and his press agent, Mr. Vick, are gentlemen whom we can cheerfully recommend to any of our brethren of the press with whom they have occasion to do business with.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS

A. Z. Litz left Monday for Logan, W. Va., to look after his coal properties at that place.

Miss Pearl Settle, of Rosedale, who has been visiting Miss Virginia Bundy at her home west of town, returned home Monday.

Misses Margaret, Martha and Elizabeth Waters, of Norfolk, are the guests of Judge S. M. B. Coulling and family here this week.

Luther Neel, manager of the Ford Music Company, of Bluefield, was here Monday en route home from a visit to Mrs. Neel, who is spending the summer with friends in Burke's Garden.

A message received from Richmond Tuesday afternoon late stated that Col. Wm. C. Pendleton had rallied nicely from the operation of the previous morning, and his condition promised a speedy recovery.

Rev. W. S. Bullard will preach at the Christian church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Both congregation and pastor extend a most cordial invitation to our citizens and visiting strangers to come and worship with them.

Governor Wm. H. Mann has issued a proclamation setting apart next Wednesday, the 14th, as a day for the farmers throughout the state to assemble at their respective court houses for the purpose of exchanging views as to the best time and method of preparing the ground and the sowing of alfalfa and all other cultivated grasses. This is an important matter, as large sums of money are annually sent outside the state for hay, and it is hoped, grasses being the foundation of this county's prosperity, that there will be a good attendance of our farmers at this meeting.

ROOSEVELT AND JOHNSON.

Progressives in Convention Name Candidates For President and Vice-President.

Under an emblem, the bull moose, taken from Edward Merritt, speaker of the New York assembly, and flaunting as a battle flag the bandana, borrowed from that grand old Roman, Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio, the Roosevelt party met in Chicago Monday to name its candidates for president and vice-president. It was a motley array, consisting of all comers, regardless of sex or size or of previous condition of servitude, except that they must be of the Caucasian race south of Mason and Dixon's line. They were non-partisan, en-partisan, woman suffrage, populist, local option, lily white, black and tan, (some states), conservatives and conservation. In fact, all kinds and creeds were welcomed.

The meeting was a cut-and-dried affair, and could have been condensed into a day, but those guaranteeing funds for the convention held out for a three days meet. The first two days were devoted to organization and oratory, then more oratory. On yesterday the convention closed by nominating Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, of New York, for president, and Governor Hiram Johnson, of California, for vice-president.

Frank White, colored, a member of the Columbia Orchestra, the well known musical aggregation of Keystone, W. Va., died at the home of Elisha Campbell here at an early hour this morning. White assisted in furnishing music for a dance here last night, and shortly thereafter was seized with an attack of heart trouble which caused his death.

Pounding Mill News.

Pounding Mill, Va., Aug. 6. Mrs. M. J. Sturgill and son, H. M., were visiting friends at Maxwell Sunday.

Mrs. Ollie Hurt and daughter, Miss Margaret, are at Tazewell today visiting relatives.

Miss Rebekah Davis is back from Cincinnati, where she has been visiting her brother, T. J. Davis.

Mercer Thomas, of Williamson, W. Va., visited his parents, Rev. and Mrs. G. R. Thomas, here last week.

A number of young people from Maxwell were here Sunday afternoon. In the party were: Misses Gertie and Stella Crabtree, Virginia Maxwell, Marie Dye and Mary Gross; Messrs. Crabtree, Ford and Freeman.

Miss Margaret Hurt is home from Bethany, W. Va., where she attended college the past winter. Since the close of her school, several weeks ago, she has been on an outing with a camping party near Toledo, Ohio.

Mrs. C. H. Belew, of Bristol, Tenn., was here the latter part of the week visiting her cousin, Mrs. W. B. Steele, and family. On Sunday, Messames Belew and Steele, accompanied by Miss Uva and Rex Steele and Claude Gossy, of Bluefield, went to Cedar Bluff, where they spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. J. Marion McGuire. Messames A. Repass, sr., Mary Peery and C. G. Hurt were also guests at the McGuire home Sunday.

The funeral and burial of John Millard Sturgill, who died in Tampa, Fla., of paralysis of the heart on July 27th, took place here on Wednesday last at 12:15 o'clock from the Church of God. Revs. Wilson, of Big Stone Gap, and G. R. Thomas, of this place, conducted the services. It is said the crowd attending was the largest ever seen here. Many beautiful floral tributes were sent by friends of the deceased, as a testimonial of the love and esteem in which he was held, the one from Tampa being especially so. Rex Steele, John Gillespie, Tom Lambert, Logan Ringstaff, Wm. Asbury and Mr. Burke, of Bluefield, acted as pall-bearers. Many out of town friends were present to pay a last tribute to the deceased, and numbers of letters have been received by the bereaved family expressing sympathy in their great sorrow.

Big Boost For Fair.

The Fair has just closed a contract for a free attraction which will prove the biggest treat yet presented to the people. R. Pat Hufford, who was raised in Tazewell, and whose father was a prominent physician here for many years has agreed to come and give his many friends a chance to see what he has accomplished as a sensational novelty artist. Mr. Hufford—known to the amusement world as Le Volos, but better known as "Pat" is a wire artist of talent and standing, and gives some acts which are not equalled by any other known performer. Besides the usual performances, both simple and difficult, common to wire performers, he has originated some acts which are entirely new, and he has even gone so far as to copyright some of them, thus guaranteeing their exclusiveness. He commenced his career about ten years ago, and since that time has been with such shows as Ringland Bros., John Robinson and others. He spent two seasons with Robinson, and only quit them to join vaudeville, with which he travelled, in different companies, all over the United States. He has played 8 to 10 weeks stands in New York City, Philadelphia, Boston and other cities. Late-ly he has been with Keith's Circuit. A year or two ago he played the Brockton,

Mass., Fair, which we believe is among the elite in the way of free attractions. The management of the Fair is to be congratulated on securing Mr. Hufford, and his many friends are delighted that they will be able to see him in his word.

Remember the dates: September 17, 18, 19—Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you haven't received a catalogue or premium list, write the Secretary for one—address, Tazewell, Va.

An Able Sermon.

Who can tell the potentiality of youth? Soon the children will be passing daily on the streets to and from school, and as we pass them, who can tell of their future? Who of these little ones will be our future governors, congressmen or possibly president? No one can tell.

Some thirty years ago one of the boys attending school here was so full of that splendid vitality that makes him the man he is today, that he was classed by those who "endured" his boyhood as "mischievous." He preached to his old friends and neighbors in the Presbyterian church here on last Sunday morning. While here he will always be remembered as and called Sprole Lyons, but after listening to the masterly sermon of last Sunday no one will wonder why, in the city of his adoption, he is called Dr. J. S. Lyons.

After a touching tribute to his old home and the friends of his youth, Dr. Lyons proceeded to deliver one of the strongest sermons ever heard from a local pulpit; in fact, with the possible exception of a sermon, in the same church, by Rev. George Stuart on "The Incarnation of Christ," some twenty years ago, it is doubtful if it has ever been equaled here. A strong sermon like this, every Sunday, would soon solve the world-wide problem of "Why don't men go to church?"

Rucker-Witten.

At the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Callie Rucker, in Lynchburg, on Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock, Miss Gertrude Rucker was united in marriage to Mr. Wilkerson Thornton Witten, of this city. The ceremony was performed in the presence of the bride's family and a few intimate friends by Dr. Waller T. Palmer, of the Westminster Presbyterian church of Lynchburg. After an extended northern trip they will be at home in Tazewell after September 1.

Miss Rucker, the bride, has been making her home in Tazewell for the past two years, and by her gracious manner has made friends of the entire community. Mr. Witten, the groom, is a native son of Tazewell, and one of our most substantial business men, being the senior member of the firm of W. T. Witten & Co. A warm and hospitable welcome awaits the happy couple when they return to their cozy home here.

Tannersville News.

Tannersville, Va., Aug. 5. G. W. Miller was transacting business in Tazewell today.

G. A. French and family visited with H. J. Whitehead and family Sunday.

Crockett Brewster left Wednesday for West Virginia, where he expects to locate.

Mrs. Rebecca Patrick spent the day Monday visiting her daughter, Mrs. R. P. Hilt.

Mr. and Mrs. Denny Osborne visited the family of Mr. and Mrs. John Patrick Sunday.

Mrs. Jane Shinnault, of Graham, spent last week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Osborne, at this place.

J. A. Puckett and family were here Thursday on their way to Tazewell, where they will reside in the future.

Mrs. Jennie Moore, of Johnson City, Tenn., was visiting her sisters, Mrs. Ed B. Oth and Mrs. H. J. Whitehead, Thursday and Friday last.

John French, who is employed as pattern maker by the Matheson Alkali Works at Saltville, spent Sunday with homefolks at this place.

Miss Liddie Harris has returned to her home in Thompson Valley, after spending two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Den Wimmer, of this place.

Misses Madie and Lena Corell, of Glade Springs, were here Saturday en route to Thompson Valley to visit their brothers, W. T. and A. B. Corell.

Quarantine Laws Will Prevent Exhibit.

Several weeks ago, the Norfolk and Western Railway Company, through its Agricultural and Industrial Department, advised the Secretaries of leading County Fairs in Virginia and North Carolina that they would endeavor to put on an attractive Live Stock Exhibit, including several varieties of hogs and sheep, some Holstein dairy cattle, chickens, collie dogs, etc. It develops, however, that the quarantine restrictions prevent shipment of live stock from a large portion of the territory lying between Petersburg and Norfolk. This territory, including Southampton County, where the Railway farm is located, lies within the quarantine belt, which in some other sections has been moved very much further south.

For this reason shipments from this territory into outside territory are prohibited, and Mr. F. H. LaBaume, Agricultural Agent of the Railway Company, advises that it will be impossible to make the exhibits as originally intended.

We realize the necessity of strict quarantine regulations, but we believe that frequently, quarantine lines might perhaps be safely moved further south with great advantage to the farmers and live stock men who are seriously handicapped in the shipment and sale of their live stock on account of quarantine regulations.

Mass Meeting.

To the Republicans of Tazewell County: There will be a mass meeting of republicans held at the courthouse in Tazewell at 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday, August 13th, (horse market day), to select delegates to the district convention, which meets in Bristol on August 28th to nominate a candidate for Congress, and to transact any other business that may come before the meeting.

Under the call issued by the district chairman, Tazewell county will be entitled to 68 delegates, divided as follows: Clear Fork, 17; Jeffersonville, 17; Maiden Spring, 34; and the same number of alternates for each district. All persons favoring southern progress and who believe the policy of protection is essential for the development of this section, are, regardless of party affiliations, requested to be present.

JOHN T. BARNES, County Chairman.

Pulaski Alum Springs Very Gay.

During the past week many distinguished guests have arrived at the Pulaski Alum Springs. Among them Hon. J. C. Wyser, of Pulaski, Mrs. Hoge Tyler and Miss Lily Tyler, of Radford, and Mr. Jim Tyler, of Roanoke, and Mr. R. F. Dunlap, of Hinton, W. Va. Bowling, Tennis Tournaments and Card parties fill up the day, while dancing holds full sway at night. The hop on Tuesday night was very much enjoyed by a party from White Gate, and on Wednesday a party from Dublin enjoyed a delightful Garman. On Friday night the guests at the hotel gave Miss Willie Flannagan a birthday party, which was enjoyed by all. On Saturday night there will be a large dance, and a large crowd from the county is expected.

Items From Skeggs.

Skeggs, Va., Aug. 5. Jeff McGlothlin made a business trip to Grundy one day last week.

Miss Bessie Cook visited friends at Flat Rock Saturday and Sunday.

Fernando Vandike is among those reported on the sick list this week.

Mrs. T. C. Cook and children are visiting relatives at Dye for a few days.

Miss Victoria Cook has returned home after a week's pleasant visit to friends in Grundy.

Major Cox, of Drill, Va., was the guest of his sister, Mr. John Hale, here Sunday night.

J. A. Cook has returned to his home here, after spending a few days with friends in Grundy.

Mrs. J. A. Cook and daughter, Miss Gussie, were the guests of Mrs. J. H. McGlothlin yesterday.

Lueton Hurt, Irvin Fuller and Miss Lula Fuller were the guests of Miss Gussie Cook last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Grimsley and children left today for Prater to attend the union meeting of the Primitive Baptist.

Douglas Cook, who has been assisting in the building of the new Methodist church at Grundy, is at home for a few days visit.

Several people from this place attended the union meeting of the Primitive Baptist at Pine Creek on Saturday and Sunday last.

John, Bruce, Jennie and Linda Cook, children of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Cook, visited their aunt, Mrs. W. S. Ellis, at Marvin last week.

Miss Gussie Cook, who has been attending the Normal School at Harrisonburg, Va., is home for her vacation. She will return to school in September.

U. D. C. Elect Officers

At the meeting of the Daughters of the Confederacy, held Tuesday at the residence of Mrs. J. S. Bottimore, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. G. W. Doak; vice-president, Mrs. A. J. May; treasurer, Mrs. A. M. Black; recording secretary, Mrs. H. C. Pobst; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Barnes Gillespie; registrar, Miss Myrtle Hankins; historian, Mrs. A. J. Tynes.

The annual report of the secretary shows the chapter to be in a flourishing condition, and the new officers indicate there will be no failing off in the efficiency of the work of the organization.

Dr. Yeuell to Lecture.

Dr. Herbert Yeuell's return to Tazewell on next Tuesday to deliver his famous lecture, "The Paris of Napoleon and Today," is being looked forward to with great interest by our people. Tazewell people already know Dr. Yeuell's power as a lecturer, and the splendid character of pictures shown during his discourses, which, once seen are never forgotten. The proceeds of this lecture go into the repair fund of the Baptist church. The cause is a worthy one, and the ladies of the Missionary Society of the church will greatly appreciate the liberal support of the public. High school chapel, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Admission, 25 and 50 cents.

TRAGIC DEATH OF VENERABLE CITIZEN.

Augustus Rhudy Loses Life in Early Morning Fire Which Destroyed Residence of Mrs. Julia Hall in Burkes Garden.

Mr. Augustus Rhudy was burned to death at an early hour on last Friday morning in a fire that destroyed the residence of Mrs. Julia Hall, in Burkes Garden. Mr. Rhudy was sixty-five years of age and unmarried, and had for a number of years made his home with his cousin, Mrs. Hall, who herself is eighty-one years of age. The only other occupant of the house at the time of the fire was Miss Pansy Baugh, housekeeper for Mrs. Hall.

On Friday morning Miss Baugh had arisen and built a fire in the kitchen preparatory to getting breakfast. Stepping into the dining room on an errand she heard Mr. Rhudy call to her, stating the house was on fire. Miss Baugh immediately ran to the room of Mrs. Hall, hurriedly awakened her and assisted her out of the house. The flames spread so quickly that all efforts to rescue Mr. Rhudy were futile. It is supposed Mr. Rhudy really died from the shock occasioned by finding the house in flames, as he was very feeble from a long sickness, and it is reasonable to suppose had such not been the case he would have escaped, as he was the first to discover the fire. All that was left of the body of Mr. Rhudy was buried Saturday afternoon at Central church in Burkes Garden.

Mrs. Hall is, for the present, making her home at one of the neighbors, Stephen Fox.

The Hall residence was one of the landmarks in the Garden, having been erected long before the Civil war. After the manner of the days in which it was built, the building was of logs. Later it was weather-boarded and the interior plastered. The dry timber proved to be a veritable fire-trap, and the flames spread with almost inconceivable rapidity, making an intense heat. It is said green apples were roasted on trees fully fifty feet from the residence.

There is a rumor that the fire may have been of incendiary origin, as the family state there had been no fire or lights in the house since the preceding morning. Mrs. Hall is well-to-do and supposed to have kept considerable money in the house. A trunk in which the money was kept was recovered, but Mrs. Hall is so grieved over the tragic death of her kinsman that it has not been ascertained, as yet, if any of the money or valuable papers in the trunk are missing.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

Miss Fannie Litz, of Adria, left Sunday for a month's visit to her uncle, George W. Litz, in Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. James Peirce, of Norton, who is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Surface, at this place, had the misfortune to run a nail into her foot last week, and as a result will be laid up for some time.

A fitting climax to the recent revival conducted here by Dr. Herbert Yeuell occurred Sunday night at the Christian church, when twenty-seven of those converted under Dr. Yeuell's preaching were immersed and received into the fellowship of that church.

Dr. J. Walter Witten, of Jerome, Arizona, is here shaking hands with the doctors and companions of his youth. Doctor Witten is much pleased with Arizona. He is assistant surgeon for the United Verde Consolidated Copper Company, with headquarters at Jerome.

Joe Walton, of Roanoke, an old Tazewell boy, was here first of the week representing the Virginia Motor Car Company, of that city, and arranging to have a demonstration car here and to establish a local agency. This is becoming one of the best places in the southwest for the sale of automobiles, and the Virginia Motor Car Company proposes to be one of the first on the ground.

There was a called meeting of the town council on last Thursday at the office of the mayor. The only matter before the body was the question of rates to be charged automobiles for hire within the city. A former ordinance making the tax \$500 a year was repealed and one providing a tax on solid tire machines of \$10 a year for twenty horse power or less and 50 cents for each additional horse power and on pneumatic tires of \$20 a year on twenty horse power and \$1.00 for each additional horse power was adopted. On private owned machines no change was in the license fee.

The August term of the United States court at Big Stone Gap will begin on next Monday. The docket is said to be the biggest in the history of the court, there being something like two hundred cases to be disposed of, most of which are for "moonshining" and the illicit selling of whiskey, and it is probable that several weeks will be required to get rid of them all. Hon. Barnes Gillespie and his assistant, Hon. Thomas J. Muney, accompanied by Nye Britton, their stenographer, will leave Sunday for Big Stone Gap to take care of the Government's interests in the cases to be tried.